

Received but not officially approved due to absence of quorum of board members remaining in January 2011.

**MINUTES
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING
CALIFORNIA UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BOARD
Docket No. 5532**

1. Opening of Meeting:

The Appeals Board convened at 9:00 a.m., December 1, 2010, in Sacramento, with Chairwoman Bonnie Garcia presiding.

2. Roll Call: <u>Members</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Bonnie Garcia, Chair	x	
George Plescia, Vice Chair	x	
Liz Figueroa	x	
Cindy Montañez		x
Sharon Runner	x	

3. Approval of the Minutes:

The October 12, 2010 and November 1, 2010 minutes were approved by all members present.

4. Chair's Report:

Chair Garcia thanked staff for helping put on the Univision phone bank. They received over 100 calls in an hour, a clear indication of the need out there, especially for the community that does not speak English. We worked well with Univision and hope to continue the partnership in the future.

5. Board Member Reports:

Members Figueroa and Runner thanked everyone for their kindness, hard work, and assistance to the Board members in performing their jobs. They stated their belief that the CUIAB is a superbly-run agency doing a meaningful job in bringing justice and fairness to both the employer community and claimants.

6. Chief ALJ/Chief Executive and Acting Executive Director Report:

Chief ALJ/Acting Executive Director Roldan reported the total number of open cases is at 72,068, the lowest level since November 2008, but this is offset by over 19,000 (some 10,000 more than normal) unregistered cases, a result of support staffs' inability to keep up with incoming cases due to the unavailability of overtime. Likewise in our typing Hub we have a backlog, with 3200 decisions on average waiting to be typed at any given time, which is delaying the issuance of

decisions and impacting our compliance with federal time requirements. As of November 26 we were closing only 1% of cases within 30 days; 13% within 45 days and improved slightly on the 90 days by moving up to 76%.

We have scheduled a Presiding Judge Conference in Sacramento for January 11 and 12 to coincide with the January Board meeting.

7. Special Assistant to the Board, Lori Kurosaka Report:

Special Assistant to the Board Lori Kurosaka reported that with our appeals imaging projects feasibility study underway, the next step is to build the imaging process. Janet Maglinte has been busy building the reporting system to implement the performance schedule plan as recommended by North Highlands. Lastly, we are rolling out our database training statewide, and staff has completed about 10 field offices so far.

8. Chief ALJ, Appellate Operations Branch, Jorge Carrillo Report:

Chief ALJ/AO Jorge Carrillo announced that he would be retiring at the end of the month. Chair Garcia on behalf of the Board thanked Jorge for his strong leadership in AO and the Agency overall, and expressed the hope that he would return as a retired annuitant.

Chief ALJ/AO Carrillo reported that they registered 2799 new appeals and issued 2565 dispositions during the month of November. Unfortunately the open balance of cases is 3400. Although we met the case aging standard, we were up several days over the previous month. All three time lapse requirements established by DOL were achieved, with 77% of cases closed within 45 days, 98% of the cases within 75 days, and close to 100% within 115 days, the 10th month in a row that we have met all three time lapse standards. The number of days it takes for the field to process appeals to AO last month was 7.66 days, about 2 days higher than it has been averaging in the past few months.

9. Chief Information Officer, Rafael Placencia Report:

CIO Rafael Placencia reported that, with the exception of VOIP, all of the projects are progressing nicely. The problem on the VOIP project is due to vendor support, which they are trying to resolve.

The IT Consolidation is being driven by the OCIO. The plan is to have a lot of our services consolidated on a statewide level. We have some dates that we have to hit this year, but the plan is to have the consolidation in place in 2013.

10. Deputy Director, Administrative Services Branch, Pam Boston Report:

Deputy Director Pam Boston reported that the Visalia hearing facility relocated to the new facility on Friday, November 19, with three new hearing rooms. The San Jose office, 2nd floor, acquired six new hearing rooms on Friday, November 12.

The Salinas hearing facility, which gives us four additional hearing rooms, is scheduled for hearings to commence on Monday, December 6.

The Inland remodel has been completed and the lease for the Tax Unit in our Inglewood Office has been executed.

There are 15 seasonal clerks that are getting furloughed from EDD who will be placed at our Oakland, Sacramento, San Diego, and Los Angeles basin offices to help with the CUIAB workload.

11. Chief Counsel's Report:

Chief Counsel Ralph Hilton reported ten new cases for the month of November, all of them UI. A total of eight cases were closed, with just one a reversal of the Board's decision. The Board members case load have reached a new high, with some individual members reviewing and deciding over 50 cases a day, an unconscionable workload.

12. Unfinished & New Business:

CIO Placencia recommended that CUIAB restructure its IT organization to align itself with what is happening at the state level, and pursuant to AB 2408. Primarily, this would mean moving the ISO under the CIO, and implementation of a Project of Management office that would be responsible for managing these projects brought to IT.

Chair Garcia stated that she has the delegated authority under Policy Statement No. 19 to effect the organizational changes necessary to comply with AB 2408, and intends to do so with the knowledge of the full Board, there being no objections.

Chair Garcia thanked Member Figueroa for her leadership as the senior member of this Board. We learned so much from her, her style and grace, her ability to sit down and calmly influence us has been incredible and a privilege to work with her. With Member Runner, she led the Women's Caucus and had the time to work with her in the Legislature and will miss her. We created a sisterhood in the Legislature and here, and Member Montanez, although very quiet on this Board, she is a giant outside of this room helping us move things in ways that we cannot always be seen.

13. Public Comment:

None

14. Closed Session:

The Board went into closed session. No votes were reported.

Adjournment